input device, and enhance, based upon the evaluation of the electronic message, a search index, which is accessible by the computer system and comprises a code page representing each of a plurality of the electronic messages that are indexed, the method comprising:

enabling the processor to create a mask comprising a number of mask columns equivalent to the predetermined number of columns in the character table bank, wherein the mask columns contain an indication of the character sets against which the universal code characters of the electronic message are to be evaluated;

enabling the processor to receive the electronic message at the input device;

evaluating the universal code characters of the electronic message received at the input device by accessing the corresponding character row of the character table bank for each of a predetermined number of the characters of the electronic message and

performing a logical AND operation between each of the corresponding character rows and the mask;

filling a character match list with an entry for each of the character sets that result in a non-zero result after the logical AND operation;

returning the character match list; and

enhancing the search index by indicating for each code page the character sets returned in the character match list.

34. (New) A computer system for evaluating universal code characters in an electronic message and enhancing a search index, the computer system comprising:

a processor,

an input device;

a storage device, which stores a character table bank comprising a predetermined number of columns and a number of character rows, each of which correspond to a universal code character;

wherein the processor evaluates the universal code characters in an electronic message, which is received at the input device, and enhances, based upon the evaluation of the electronic message, a search index, which is accessible by the computer system and comprises a code page representing each of a plurality of the electronic messages that are indexed;

and wherein the processor creates a mask comprising a number of mask columns equivalent to the predetermined number of columns in the character table bank, wherein the mask columns contain an indication of the character sets

against which the universal code characters of the electronic message are to be evaluated;

and wherein the processor enables receipt of the electronic message at the input device;

and wherein the processor evaluates the universal code characters of the electronic message received at the input device by accessing the corresponding character row of the character table bank for each of a predetermined number of the characters of the electronic message and performs a logical AND operation between each of the corresponding character rows and the mask;

and wherein the processor fills a character match list with an entry for each of the character sets that result in a non-zero result after the logical AND operation;

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and wherein the processor returns the character match list; and

wherein the processor enables enhancement of the search index by indicating for each code page the character sets returned in the character match list.

35. (New) A computer system for evaluating universal code characters in an electronic message and enhancing a search index, the computer system comprising:

processor means,

input device means;

storage device means, which stores a character table bank comprising a predetermined number of columns and a number of character rows, each of which correspond to a universal code character;

wherein the processor means evaluates the universal code characters in an electronic message, which is received at the input device means, and enhances, based upon the evaluation of the electronic message, a search index, which is accessible by the computer system and comprises a code page representing each of a plurality of the electronic messages that are indexed;

and wherein the processor means creates a mask comprising a number of mask columns equivalent to the predetermined number of columns in the character table bank, wherein the mask columns contain an indication of the character sets against which the universal code characters of the electronic message are to be evaluated;

and wherein the processor means enables receipt of the electronic message at the input device means;

and wherein the processor means evaluates the universal code characters of the electronic message received at the input device means by accessing the corresponding character row of the character table bank for each of a

predetermined number of the characters of the electronic message and performs a logical AND operation between each of the corresponding character rows and the mask;

and wherein the processor means fills a character match list with an entry for each of the character sets that result in a non-zero result after the logical AND operation;

and wherein the processor means returns the character match list; and

wherein the processor means enables enhancement of the search index by indicating for each code page the character sets returned in the character match list.

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36. (New) An electronic storage medium for storing machine readable code, the machine readable code enabling a computer system comprising a processor, an input device and a storage device, which stores a character table bank comprising a predetermined number of columns and a number of character rows, each of which correspond to a universal code character, to execute the machine readable code and implement a method for evaluating the universal code characters in an electronic message, which is received at the input device, and enhancing, based upon the evaluation of the electronic message, a search index, which is accessible by the computer system and comprises a code page

representing each of a plurality of the electronic messages that are indexed, the method comprising:

enabling the processor to create a mask comprising a number of mask columns equivalent to the predetermined number of columns in the character table bank, wherein the mask columns contain an indication of the character sets against which the universal code characters of the electronic message are to be evaluated;

enabling the processor to receive the electronic message at the input device;

evaluating the universal code characters of the electronic message received at the input device by accessing the corresponding character row of the character table bank for each of a predetermined number of the characters of the electronic message and

performing a logical AND operation between each of the corresponding character rows and the mask;

filling a character match list with an entry for each of the character sets that result in a non-zero result after the logical AND operation;

returning the character match list; and

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enhancing the search index by indicating for each code page the character sets returned in the character match list.